Administration to assert its authority and curb the activities of the secessionists. The Terrorists in both states have also been getting inspiration and guidance from across the border.

(c) According to information available the number of persons who have lost their lives during the relevant period is as follows:—

	No. of persons killed in		
	Dec. 1989	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1990
Punjab . .	121	126	95
Jammu & Kashmir . .	18	78	54

(d) The situation in the two states is constantly under review. The State Govts. concerned have taken adequate security and other measures to deal with the situation. Central assistance by way of deployment of paramilitary forces, etc. has also been extended as and when required.

(e) The problem in the two States has become complicated over the years. The Government are of the view that it requires a national and all Party approach for a solution. Discussions have been held with leaders of various Political Parties with this end in view.

Appeal made by Pakistani leaders on the Kashmir issue

*30. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to recent statements made by several Pakistani leaders to the effect that Kashmir was a disputed territory and that bilateral negotiations should be held with India on that issue; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) The statement of Pakistani leaders on the Kashmir issue have been varied and occasionally contradictory.

(b) As is well known, Kashmir is an integral part of India and statements by some activists in Pakistan do not alter this reality.

Solution of Punjab problem

*31. SHRI JAGADISH JANI:
SHRI P.N. SUKUL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the solution of Punjab problem; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have taken a major initiative to create a climate conducive to an amicable solution of the Punjab problem by Prime Minister's visit to Amritsar on 7-12-1989, holding of All Party meeting at Delhi on 17-12-1989 and All Party rally at Ludhiana on 11-1-1990. At the same time anti-terrorist operations have continued.

Meeting of National Integration Council

*32. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some important political parties and leading personalities have been repeatedly requesting the Prime Minister to call a meeting of the National Integration Council in order to discuss the outstanding issues facing the nation;

(b) if so, the reasons for which the meeting is being delayed even after the reconstitution of the National Integration Council; and